

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-18 (Cancelled).

Claim 19 (Original): A sausage extrusion tube, comprising,  
an elongated hollow tube having a meat emulsion intake end and a meat emulsion discharge end, a resistor element in the tube to partially restrict the longitudinal movement of sausage emulsion therethrough so as to divide meat emulsion passing therethrough into separate longitudinal portions comprised of first portion of meat emulsion that passes, engages and is deflected to pass over the restrictor element, and a second portion that does not engage the restrictor element and passes thereby without being deflected.

Claim 20. (Original): The device of claim 19 wherein the cross sectional area of the restrictor element with respect to the cross sectional area in a hollow portion of the tube is between 1-2 to 1-8.

Claim 21. (Original): The device of claim 19 wherein the resistor element is located in an off-center position within the tube.

Claim 22. (Original): The device of claim 19 wherein a downstream end of the resistor element is approximately 100mm from the discharge end.

Claim 23. (Original): The device of claim 19 wherein the resistor element engages a bottom portion of the hollow tube, and has a concave arcuate surface on a top surface thereof.

Claim 24. (Original): The device of claim 19 wherein an open passageway is formed above the resistor element having an elliptical cross-sectional shape.

Claim 25. (Original): The device of claim 19 wherein an inclined ramp is on an upstream end of the resistor element.